

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 DPW-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

EB-07 /069 W

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O P 301832Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 307

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 558

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PARM, ICRC, VN, VS, SN

SUBJECT: PRG ISSUE AT LOW CONFERENCE: POSITION OF SINGAPORE

REF: (A) SINGAPORE 429

1. USDEL OFFICER AND SECOND SECRETARY PHAM VAN TRINH OF GVN MISSION CALLED JANUARY 30 ON TAN KENG JIN, THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SINGAPORE IN GENEVA. TAN IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF TRINH'S.

2. TAN WAS ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO REPRESENT SINGAPORE DURING THE FIRST STAGES OF THE LOW CONFERENCE, WHEN THE PRG ISSUE IS EXPECTED TO ARISE. TAN REPLIED THAT, ALTHOUGH HE IS AN ECONOMIC EXPERT AND NOT A POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS GOVERNMENT, HE UNDERSTOOD THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE, AND HE KNEW THAT SINGAPORE SUPPORTS THE GVN. HE SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO DO AS WE SUGGESTED, BUT OF COURSE HE NEEDED INSTRUCTIONS
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FROM HIS HOME GOVERNMENT. HE OFFERED TO SEND A

TELEX TO SINGAPORE EXPLAINING THE SITUATION AND ASKING IF INSTRUCTIONS COULD BE FORTHCOMING. AT THE REQUEST OF BOTH TAN AND TRINH, USDEL OFFICER PROMISED TO INFORM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT FOR WHATEVER HELP THE AMEMBASSY COULD BE IN THE MATTER.

3. COMMENT: WE KNOW THAT AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE HAS ALREADY MADE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS TO THE GOS ON THIS ISSUE. WE NOTE PARTICULARLY REFTEL WHICH SEEMS TO CLOSE THE DOOR ON SINGAPORE PARTICIPATION IN ANY STAGE OF THIS CONFERENCE. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE ISSUE IS IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO WARRANT FURTHER MONITORING OF THE GOS'S POSITION IN LIGHT OF THE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S WILLINGNESS TO HELP US AND TO SEEK INSTRUCTIONS. DALE

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